Marlin® Owner's Manual

FOR MODELS: 39A and 39M

IMPORTANT This manual contains operating, care and maintenance instructions. To assure safe operation, any user of this firearm must read this manual carefully. This manual should always accompany this firearm, and be transferred with it upon change of ownership. **WARNING: KEEP THIS FIREARM OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN**

Before You Use This Firearm

It is very important that you read and understand these instructions before using your rifle. Warnings are highlighted in red, and should be read and heeded carefully. Also follow the safety rules listed in "Marlin's Guide to Gun Safety".

How Your Rifle is Made

Your rifle has been made to Marlin's strictest standards of safety and reliability. Your rifle has been sighted-in at the factory, function fired, and proof tested with a high pressure load to insure strength and durability. Built with tradition and engineered to last, your rifle is the product of over 100 years of Marlin technology.

Your New Model 39

- **WARNING: Your rifle was shipped completely assembled and should not be used or disassembled without fully reading and understanding the instructions in this manual.**

Your 39 is a classic, exposed-hammer lever action 22. It will handle 22 Shorts, Longs and Long Rifles interchangeably. (It is not designed for use with shot cartridges.) It features a solid-top receiver and tubular magazine.

You will notice a small hole in the forward part of the left side of the receiver. This is a vent to allow gas to escape in the event that a defective cartridge ruptures when fired.

Use of The Hammer Spur

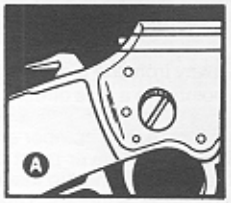
Because of its solid top, side-ejecting receiver, your rifle is ideally suited for use with a scope. The receiver top is drilled and tapped for mounting a scope adapter base.

A detachable offset spur, affixed to the hammer, must be used when using a scope. It is installed for right hand use. If the gun is to be used by a left handed shooter, the position of the spur must be reversed. Loosen set screw with a 5/16" hexagonal wrench, reposition spur so that it protrudes from the *left* side of the hammer, and tighten set screw. We recommend that you remove the hammer spur when not using a scope.

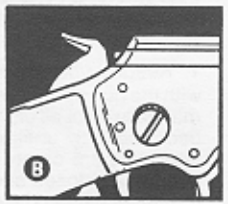
- **WARNING: If you use the hammer spur, be sure to make periodic checks to make certain that the set screw joining the spur to the hammer is tight.**

"Full Cock" and "Half Cock" Hammer Positions

- **WARNING: Become thoroughly familiar with the two hammer positions before loading your rifle. Failure to follow the instructions in sections 1 and 2 may result in "false half cock", a condition that allows the hammer to strike the firing pin if the trigger is pulled or the rifle is jarred.**



Full Cock



Half Cock

1. The Full Cock position of the hammer is when it is at its furthest point from the firing pin (See A). If the trigger is pulled with the hammer in this position, the gun will fire.

2. The Half Cock position of the hammer is between the Full Cock position and the firing pin (See B).

The Half Cock position serves as the safety and should be used whenever you are not firing. The hammer may be brought from Full Cock to the Half Cock position by firmly holding the hammer in the Full Cock position with your thumb. Keep your thumb on the hammer as you pull the trigger. As soon as you feel the hammer exerting forward pressure against your thumb, remove your finger from the trigger and ease the hammer slowly forward to the Half Cock position (See C & D). The rifle is now in the Safety position and will not fire. To resume the Full Cock position, simply pull the hammer all the way to the rear (See A).

Changing hammer position—Full Cock to Half Cock.

- **WARNING: Any mechanical device can fail, so never rely on the Half Cock (safety position) to justify careless handling.**

- **WARNING: Never allow the hammer to rest on the firing pin (hammer in full forward position) while the gun is loaded. Should the hammer inadvertently be struck in the full forward position, the rifle will fire.**

How to Load

- **WARNING: Never attempt to load your rifle with ammunition that does not meet the cartridge designation stamped on the barrel. We recommend clean, dry, factory-loaded ammunition.**

- **WARNING: Before loading or firing, always check the bore to be sure it is free of grease, oil, or any other obstruction. With the action open, look through the barrel to see if there is an obstruction. If there is, it must be removed before firing. Otherwise, personal injury or damage could result.**

1. Loading the Magazine. Be sure the bolt is closed (lever to the rear), the hammer is in the Half Cock position (See B), and the gun is pointed in a safe direction. Turn your rifle upside down and unlock the inner magazine tube by pushing in and turning the knurled locking end plug (See E). Keeping your fingers away from the muzzle, pull the inner tube from the outer tube until the loading port is exposed.

Unlocking the magazine

Loading the magazine

With the muzzle raised slightly, drop cartridges into the loading port, bullet end toward the muzzle (See F). When you have loaded up to the stated magazine capacity (39A holds 26 Short, 21 Long or 19 Long Rifle cartridges. 39M holds 21 Short, 16 Long or 15 Long Rifle cartridges), slide the tube back in place, turning it slightly to ease passage over the loaded rounds. DO NOT FORCE THE TUBE DOWN. Then rotate the knurled locking end plug to the locked position. The inner tube will not lock in place if the number of cartridges loaded exceeds the stated magazine capacity.

The Model 39 is NOT designed for single loading. Always load cartridges through the tubular magazine as directed above.

2. Preparing to fire. With the rifle pointed in a safe direction, completely open and close the lever one time. Your rifle is loaded, cocked, and ready to fire.

- **WARNING: If you do not want to fire at this point, return the hammer to the Half-Cock-position, as described above.**

How to Fire

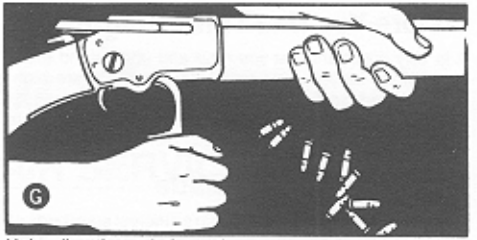
With the hammer in the Full Cock position, and with the gun pointed at the target, squeeze the trigger. Work the lever fully forward and back for each repeat shot. If you do not fire all the cartridges in the magazine, be sure to put the hammer in the Half Cock position until you are ready to shoot again.

- **WARNING: Remember, until a visual check has been made, you should assume that a live round remains in the chamber, and/or magazine.**

How to Unload

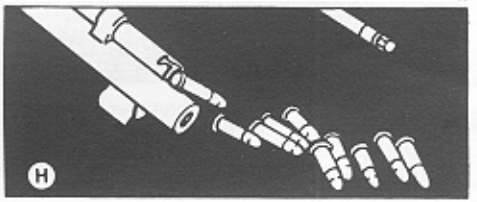
You can unload your rifle in either of the two following ways.

1. Keeping your fingers away from the trigger, and with the gun upright and pointed in a safe direction, manually eject all cartridges by operating the lever back and forth, until you are sure the chamber and magazine are empty (See G). The lever must be completely closed and then fully opened to insure proper feeding and ejection of all cartridges. Then, with the lever in the forward position (bolt to the rear), inspect the chamber, carrier and magazine carefully to be sure there are no cartridges left in the gun.



Unloading through the action

- **WARNING: During the unloading process, each time the lever is completely closed (all the way to the rear), your rifle is cocked and ready to fire. Keep your fingers away from the trigger and be sure the gun is pointed in a safe direction during unloading.**



Partial unloading through the magazine

2. Another way to unload. With the lever completely forward (bolt to the rear), remove the inner magazine tube completely. Tilt the muzzle downward with the magazine tube facing up and allow all the loaded rounds to drop out (See H). Shake the rifle to make sure all cartridges have fallen from the tube. Replace the inner magazine tube and lock it in position. Operate the lever several times to be sure that the remaining cartridges in the chamber and on the carrier are ejected. Finally, inspect the chamber, carrier and magazine visually to be sure that the rifle is completely unloaded.

• WARNING: This rifle is not completely unloaded simply by emptying the magazine tube. You must also manually eject the remaining cartridges in the chamber and oil the carrier.

What to do if rifle fails to fire

1. Misfire. If you squeeze the trigger and the cartridge does not fire, remain in shooting position, with the gun pointed in a safe direction. Count to ten, then clear the action (See How to Unload).

2. Underpowered shot. A "squib", or underpowered shot, should not occur if the ammunition is clean, dry, and factory loaded. You can tell if a shot is underpowered by the unusually low report it makes. Because the bullet may actually still be in the barrel, you must unload completely, clear the action (See How to Unload), and look through the barrel to see if there is any obstruction. If there is, it should be removed by a qualified gunsmith.

Sighting

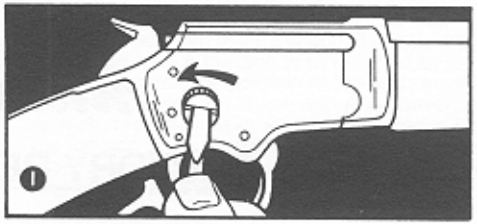
Your rifle has been sighted-in and test-fired at the factory. Due to individual shooting characteristics, however, sighting should be range verified.

1. Vertical Correction (elevation): To raise the point of impact, raise the rear sight, by moving the sight elevator rearward. To lower the point of impact, lower the rear sight, by moving the sight elevator forward.

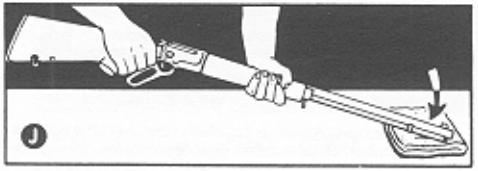
2. Horizontal Correction (windage): To move the point of impact to the left, tap the rear sight base to the left. To move the point of impact to the right, tap the rear sight base to the right.

How to Clean Your Rifle

• WARNING: Never attempt to wipe down or clean a loaded gun. Follow instructions under "How to Unload", before cleaning.



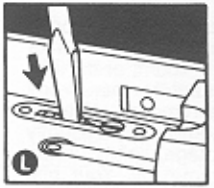
Loosening take-down screw



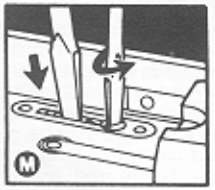
Tapping muzzle to separate two-piece receiver

1. To clean the bore from the breech end, follow this procedure: with the lever slightly open and the hammer at Half Cock, unscrew the take-down screw (See I). (This screw will not come all the way out.) Place a folded cloth on floor or work bench. Hold the grip of the rifle firmly and let the left side of the muzzle strike the cloth (See J). You may have to repeat this tapping several times before the two parts of the receiver separate. You can then remove the breech bolt by sliding it to the rear as far as it will go, and lifting it out (See K). This completes the take-down operation.

Removing breech bolt



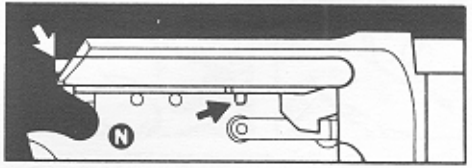
Pushing ejector down



Turning rivet to lock ejector down

To prevent damage to the ejector while cleaning, hold it down as far as it will go with a small screwdriver, (See L), and at the same time insert a second screwdriver into the slotted rivet just ahead of the ejector (See M). Then turn the rivet slightly until the ejector is locked in position. (Failure to lock the ejector down may result in damage to it while cleaning the bore from the breech end, which is recommended.)

The action and bore may be cleaned and oiled while the gun is in this state disassembly.



Breech bolt forward, firing pin back.

2. To reassemble, reverse the take-down process described above. Be sure to release the ejector by turning the ejector locking rivet so that the ejector springs back to its original operating position (See M). Be sure the breech bolt is as far forward as it will go, and the firing pin is as far back as it will go (See N). Due to extremely close tolerances, it is necessary to release the lever slightly from the closed position in order to rejoin the two parts of the receiver. Be sure to tighten the take-down screw (See I).

3.

To clean the bore and barrel, use any standard 22 caliber commercial cleaning rod and cleaning patches. Clean the barrel with powder solvent and wipe lightly with gun oil after cleaning.

Avoid the use of oil during below freezing conditions. Condensation droplets may form soon after the rifle is brought into a warm room, or the rifle may become wet during inclement weather. In any case, all moisture should be removed. Exterior metal finishes may be wiped down with a slightly oiled cloth. For long term storage, lightly oil the bore, barrel and action with gun oil. Your rifle should be completely unloaded and stored in a dry, ventilated area. Do not store in gun case.

Marlin®

FACTORY REPAIR SERVICE

1. If you wish to return a gun to the factory, be sure to follow these instructions.
   A. Be absolutely certain the firearm is not loaded prior to mailing.
   B. Pack the firearm carefully. Use ample cushioning material and a sturdy outer cardboard box. Do not ship in a special container which you want returned.
   C. Accessories such as scopes, scope mounts, gun cases, quick detach type swivels, sling straps etc. should be removed prior to returning the firearm.
   D. Attach a complete letter of information to the outside of the package. The letter should describe the model number, serial number, description of the damage or problem, and under what conditions the difficulty occurs.
   E. Clearly mark your return address on the outside of the box and your accompanying letter.
   F. If the firearm is not covered by warranty, we will supply an estimate of the repair cost before proceeding with the work. Repairs will be made upon receipt of your check or money order. If repairs are not possible, the gun will be returned.
   G. Please do not ship ammunition to the factory.
   H. Ship your firearm via U.P.S. or insured Parcel Post. Shipment must be pre-paid and addressed to:

MARLIN GUN SERVICE
ATTN: REPAIR DEPARTMENT
100 KENNA DRIVE
NORTH HAVEN, CT. 06473